

PLEASE PRACTICE RESPONSIBLE RECYCLING

Dear Recycler,

As you probably know, cell phones can be classified as hazardous waste according to The California Department of Toxic Substances Control, which conducted an analysis using EPA test methods. I am aware that non-working cell phones, parts or batteries are sometimes exported to developing countries where infrastructure does not exist to properly manage this kind of waste. I am writing to urge you not to engage in this practice.

Instead, when recycling my phone, I hope that you will follow the United Nations' Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative Decision Tree Procedure, that provides guidance on international shipments of used and end-of-life cell phones so they are managed in an environmentally responsible way.

I also hope that you will sign the Electronics Recycler's Pledge of True Stewardship and become an e-Steward. E-Stewards agree to uphold a rigorous set of social and environmental criteria and pledge that neither they nor their vendors will engage in the export of hazardous materials. They also refuse to dump these materials in local landfills or incinerators.

Thank you in advance for taking these crucial steps to protect our environment and human health.

Sincerely,

P.S. To find out more about the Decision Tree and e-Stewards:

Decision Tree:

<http://www.basel.int/industry/mppi/MPPI%20Guidance%20Document.doc> [see Appendix 4(b)]

e-Stewards:

<http://www.ban.org>

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